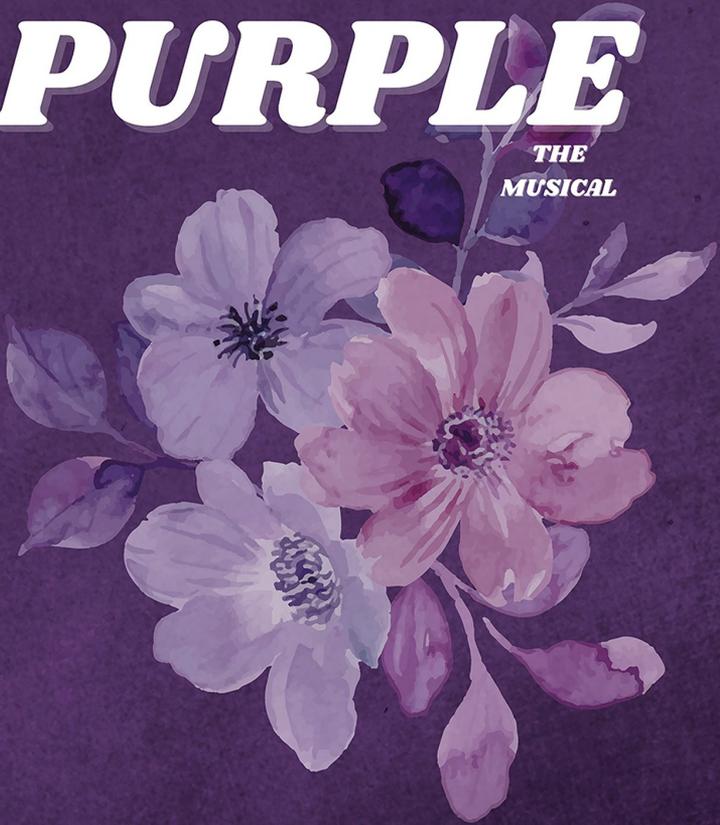




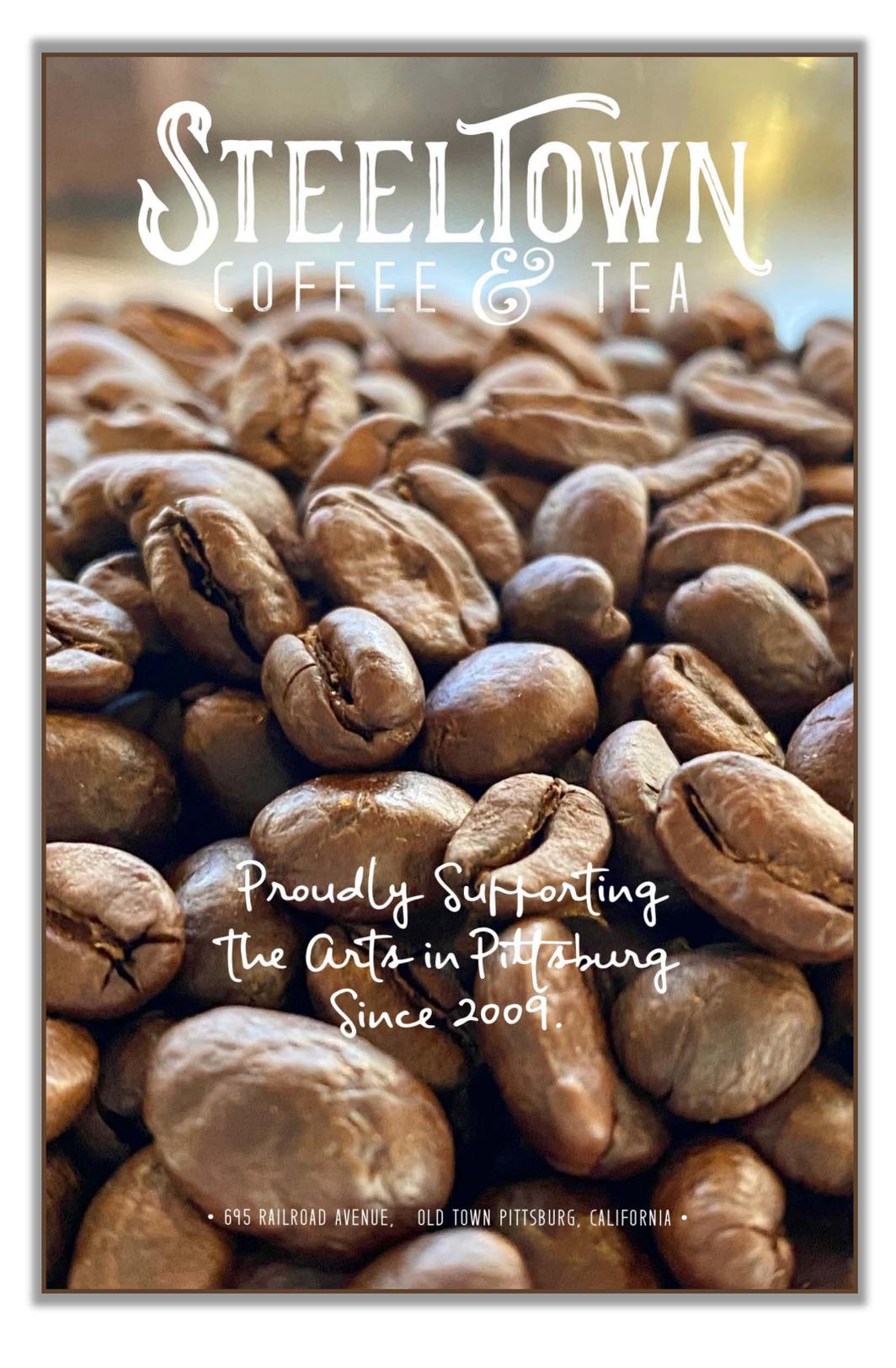
THE
COLOR
PURPLE
THE
MUSICAL



January 30 - February 8, 2026



The Color Purple is presented through
special arrangement with Theatrical Rights Worldwide.



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PITTSBURG THEATRE COMPANY

**THE
COLOR
PURPLE**



Book by MARSHA NORMAN

Music and Lyrics by

BRENDA RUSSELL, ALLEE WALLIS, STEPHEN BRAY

Based upon the novel written by Alice Walker and the Warner Bros./Amblin Entertainment Motion Picture.

THE COLOR PURPLE was produced on Broadway at the Broadway Theater by Oprah Winfrey, Scott Sanders, Roy Furman, and Quincy Jones. The world premiere of THE COLOR PURPLE was produced by the Alliance Theatre, Atlanta, Georgia.

Directed by

TANIKA BAPTISTE

**Choreography by
TIANA HESTER**

**Music Direction by
JON GALLO**

DIRECTOR'S NOTES



This production of *The Color Purple* is dedicated to our ancestors—those who endured the unimaginable and still found ways to live, love, create, and dream. We honor their indescribable fortitude, their resiliency, and their strength to overcome enslavement, torture, and the systematic genocide of culture, language, dreams, and body. Their survival is not passive history; it is an active inheritance that lives in us.

At its heart, *The Color Purple* is a story of reclamation—of voice, of joy, of self, and of spirit. Celie's journey mirrors that of so many who were told they were nothing, yet proved themselves to be everything. This production centers not only the pain of that legacy, but the radical beauty of endurance: laughter as resistance, love as survival, and community as salvation.

I am deeply grateful to this entire company of artisans who brought this story to life. You all are too beautiful for words. Each contribution—seen and unseen—carries intention, care, and ancestral memory.

Thank you, dear audience member, for bearing witness and sharing space with us. And thank you to Alice Walker, whose brilliance gave us this story—one that continues to hold truth, tenderness, and liberation across generations.

We stand on the shoulders of those who were denied freedom yet imagined it anyway. May this work serve as remembrance, gratitude, and offering. May it remind us that despite every attempt to erase us, we are still here—singing, loving, and choosing life.

Regards, Tanika Baptiste, Director



About the Director...

Tanika Baptiste is an actor, director, producer, real estate agent, and theatre artist recognized for her powerful stage presence and versatility. This is Tanika's 2nd performance at PTC. She was last seen in the incredible 2019 production of *Sister Act* as Deloris Van Cartier! A proud AEA and SDC member, she has performed with acclaimed companies including San Francisco Playhouse, Magic Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse, and Berkeley Playhouse. Known for dynamic performances in *Waitress the Musical*, *Sister Act*, *Nollywood Dreams*, and *Dreamgirls*, Tanika brings depth, humor, and authenticity to every role. A UC Davis graduate with a B.A. in African and African American Studies and the current Associate Director of Audience Services at The Freight in downtown Berkeley. She is deeply grateful to the Lord, her family, the incredible company of artisans she gets to work alongside, and to our cast and crew. Special thanks to Pittsburg Theatre Company and the Pittsburg community for their continued support, and to you for watching our show, as she continues to shape stories that celebrate Black artistry and resilience. @tanikabaptiste Philippians 4:13

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1

Huckleberry Pie	Young Celie and Nettie
Mysterious Ways	Company
Somebody Gonna Love You	Celie and Nettie
Our Prayer	Celie, Nettie, Mister
Big Dog	Mister and Men
Hell No!	Sofia and Women
Brown Betty	Harpo, Squeak and Men
Shug Avery Comin' to Town	Mister, Celie and Company
Too Beautiful for Words	Shug
Push Da Button	Shug and Company
Uh Oh!	Company
What About Love?	Celie and Shug

INTERMISSION—15 MINUTES

ACT 2

African Homeland	Nettie, Celie, and Villagers
The Color Purple	Shug
Mister's Song	Mister
Miss Celie's Pants	Celie, and Women
Any Little Thing	Harpo and Sofia
I'm Here	Celie
The Color Purple (Reprise)	Celie and Company



CONTENT ADVISORY

Some material included may not be suitable for children and can be sensitive for adults. Show contains strong language, racial slurs, implied nudity and some domestic violence.



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No photography or videography of any kind.***

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CAST

CelieSafira McGrew
NettieRaven Douglas
Church Lady/DorisSydney Jacobs Allen
Church Lady/DarleneAndi Anderson
Church Lady/JareneSienna Cook
PaJalen Jeffrey
MisterBenjamin Pierson
Harpo / PreacherJustin Daily
SofiaToniea Hawkins
SqueakSienna Cook
Shug AveryAsoula Jasmine Avegalio
Ol' Mister / ChiefKirk Waller
BusterMark Anthony

ENSEMBLE

Kennzeil Love, Natalie Martin Gardner, Jamari McGee,
Veronica Pope, Cheryl Stewart, Tevin Whack

UNDERSTUDIES

Sydney Jacobs Allen (Celie/Shug), Andi Anderson (Sofia),
Kennzeil Love (Mister)



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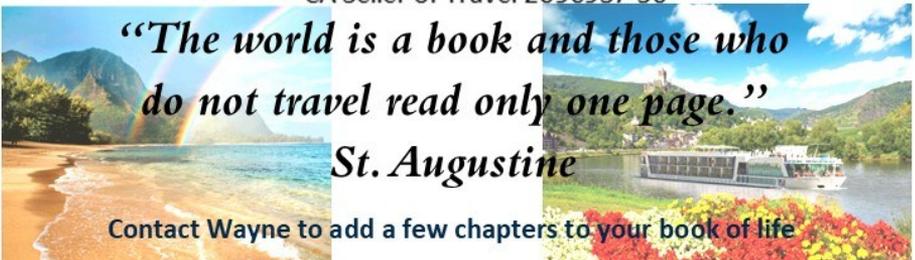
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St. Augustine

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WHO'S WHO



Mark Anthony (Buster, Ensemble) has performed at Theatre Rhinoceros in *Group Therapy*. He has performed in Town Hall Theatre's production of *Human Error*, as Kitch in *Pass Over* with Left Edge Theatre in Santa Rosa. He has also appeared as George Murchison in *A Raisin in The Sun* at 6th St. Playhouse in Santa Rosa, and will be returning as Cory in their upcoming production of *Fences*. Mark has been in films and on TV including, *Earth Mama*, *Blindspotting*, and *Divine Living*. He studied at SFSU and has a bachelor's degree in theatre and has classical and contemporary arts training.



Asoula Jasmine Avegalio (Shug Avery) is ecstatic to be returning for a second production with PTC. She previously appeared in PTC's production of *Dreamgirls* as a Step Sister/ Ensemble, Throckmorton Theatre's production of *Kinky Boots the Musical* as Trish/Lauren understudy, Ghostlight Theatre's production of *Spamalot* as The Lady of the Lake and in CCCT's production of *Fairview* as Beverly. Avegalio extends a special thank you to her children who inspire her to play and her family and friends for their love and unwavering support.



Andi Anderson (Church Lady-Darlene, Sofia Understudy) is so excited to make their debut performance with Pittsburg Theatre Company. Recent roles include Ruth in DVC's *Blithe Spirit*, Larry the Lobster in *The Spongebob Musical*, Rosencrantz in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, Herman in *Sweet Charity* and Ensemble in *All Shook Up*. They would like to thank their professor Lisa Drummond and Beth McBrien for being such amazing mentors. They would also like to thank Tanika for the opportunity to tell this important story, and their family (and cat Loki) for all their support.

WHO'S WHO



Sienna Cook (Church Lady-Jarene, Squeak)

is a Bay Area native who has always expressed an interest in the arts. As a graduate of the Actors Training Program in 2012, she has since expanded her interests into the world of African Diaspora dance. Sienna has had the pleasure of dancing with the Diaspora Dance Team in the Black Joy Parade 2021-2025 and with MasFx in Oakland Carnival from 2022-

2024. Recently Sienna made her return to the theatrical stage in her debut in the *Fresh Prince of Bel Air Live at Oasis* in San Francisco. She is so excited to be a part of this production of *The Color Purple!* She'd like to thank her family and friends for always encouraging her to pursue her artistic passions. Ubuntu, I am, because we are.



Justin Daily (Harpo, Preacher)

is ecstatic to return to Pittsburg Theater Company for *The Color Purple*. Recently, he has been part of productions such as *Catch Me if You Can* as Dr Wanamaker at Masquers Players, *Chicago*, *Dreamgirls* as James Thunder Early here at PTC, *Spamalot* as Not Dead Fred with Ghostlight Theater Company, *Ain't Misbehavin'* as Andre with Contra Costa Musical Theater,

and others. He hopes you enjoy this wonderful production of *The Color Purple* with this wonderfully talented cast!

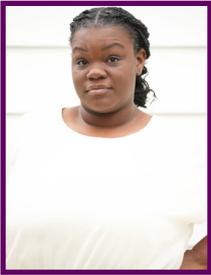


Raven Douglas (Nettie)

is excited to make her debut at PTC. She was last seen as Emily Cratchit in the world premiere of *Scrooge* at Contra Costa Civic Theatre. Other credits include Keisha in *Fairview* (CCCT) Alice in *Alabaster* (Town Hall), Marianne in *Constellations* (The Pear), Laertes in *Hamlet* (CCCT), and Cha Cha/Ms. Lynch/Radio Singer in *Grease* (Altarena Playhouse). New to theater, Raven's has

appeared in commercial and film projects, and performed as a lead singer touring southeast Asia. In her free time, she enjoys dancing, traveling, and volunteering with community organizations. Raven would like to thank the Bay Area theatre scene for embracing an outsider so wholeheartedly, and her loved ones for their support.

WHO'S WHO



Toniea Hawkins (Sofia) is so excited to be making her PTC acting debut! Past productions include *The Spongebob Musical* (Pearl Krabs), *All Shook Up* (Sylvia), *Seussical* (Sour Kangaroo) and *Hairspray* (Motormouth Maybelle) with DVC Drama, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Mitch Mahoney) with Ohana Theatrical Productions and *Intimate Apparel* (Mrs. Dickson) with Onstage

Repertory Theatre. Shoutout to her loved ones for all their support! She would like to especially thank her mom who has manifested this role for Toniea since the moment she's starting acting. This one is for you. Enjoy the show, everyone!



Sydney Jacobs Allen (Church Lady, Celie/Shug Understudy) is thrilled for her debut performance with PTC. A Bay Area native, Sydney graduated from Oakland School for the Arts School of Vocal Music where she was a part of the award winning a cappella group Vocal Rush. Sydney has enjoyed roles such as Crystal in her very first stage production, *Little Shop of Horrors* at Shotgun Theater with the Imagination Players (Berkeley Playhouse at the time). Sydney has performed with Berkeley Playhouse (BPH) in the following productions; *Once on This Island*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *Urinetown* among others. She is part of

Oakland Theater Project's *Dance of the Holy Ghost* and enjoyed multiple ensemble roles this last year in Berkeley Playhouse's *Rent* and *Seussical*, and Ray of Light's *Legally Blonde*, as well as Matron Mama Morton in *Chicago* with Plethos Productions. Recently she portrayed Judas in *Jesus Christ Superstar* at BPH and Leading Player in *Pippin* at Contra Costa Civic Theater. Sydney would love to thank her family and friends for their unwavering love and support.

WHO'S WHO



Jalen Jeffrey (Pa/Ensemble) is a fourth generation Pittsburg native, making his first performance debut at just twenty-four years old and he knows no better way to kick off his theatre career than with the Pittsburg Theatre Company, having studied acting at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, he has been equipped with the necessary tools and techniques to give a high quality and memorable performance that will captivate audiences.

Kenzziel Love (Ensemble, Mister Understudy) is a Bay Area native whose love for acting began in high school. He took a hiatus to serve in the Marines, yet is excited to be back amongst his fellow thespians. *The Color Purple* is a dream production of his and he feels honored to be telling this story with such an amazing cast.



Natalie Martin Gardner (Ensemble) is super excited to have made her way back to the stage. After taking a long break from theatre to get married and raise her beautiful family, this is Natalie's first solo show at PTC without her husband and youngest daughter. She was last seen on stage with PTC as Violet Beauregard's mother in *Willy Wonka*.



Jamari McGee (Ensemble) is thrilled to be back with PTC for *The Color Purple*. He was last seen in CCSF's production of *The Crucible* and was last seen in *Dreamgirls* with PTC. While Jamari is not acting, he loves watching horror films and going to amusement parks. Jamari is excited to share one of his favorite shows with you and thanks you for your support. For more content checkout his IG for upcoming shows like *9 to 5* coming April 2026.

@itsmeemasterj

WHO'S WHO



Safira McGrew (Celie) is excited to return to the California and Campbell Theater stages with PTC! You may have seen her in PTC's *Clybourne Park* (Francine/Lena) and *Chicago* (Matron "Mama" Morton), Onstage Repertory Theatre's *Intimate Apparel* (Mayme), Contra Costa Musical Theatre's *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Charlayne), Plethos Production's *Once On This Island* (Mama Euralie), or most recently

as Aretha in Sonoma Arts Live's *A Night With Janis Joplin*. A lifelong performer, Safira is grateful to help bring Celie's story to life! She thanks her family and friends for their support, and she hopes you enjoy the show!



Benjamin Pierson (Mister) is beyond thrilled to perform in PTC's production of *The Color Purple*! A native to the Bay Area, Benjamin has had a passion for the performing arts his entire life and is grateful for every opportunity he has had to grace the stage. Benjamin made his theatre debut in *Clybourne Park* (Masquers Playhouse) in 2024 and performed in *Intimate Apparel* (OnStage

Repertory Theatre), Rogers & Hammerstein's *Cinderella* and *PUFFS* (both with Tri-Valley Theatre Company) in 2025. He is excited to kick off 2026 as Mister in this story that has meant so much to so many people for over 40 years. He would like to thank his family and friends for their continued support and encouragement on this journey and to the amazing cast and crew of *The Color Purple*. Hope you all enjoy the show!



Veronica Pope (Ensemble) a Pittsburg resident, is thrilled to make her first performance debut after decades of being a seasoned theatre buff; however, with no prior acting experience, she is also active in her community. She is the Founder of the nonprofit People Who Care (PWC) Children Association and, currently, works as a Mental Health Resource Specialist at PWC.

With over 25 years of experience in the Mental Health Field, she specializes in assisting children with special education and social adjustment needs in schools and community settings. She would like to thank her family, friends, and coworkers for their love, support, and encouragement in pursuing this personal challenge.

WHO'S WHO



Cheryl Stewart (Ensemble) is back for her 3rd production with PTC. Previous productions include *Sister Act* and *Young Frankenstein*. Cheryl has previously performed in productions at Pittsburg High School such as *Godspell*, *Teahouse of The August Moon*, and *Guys and Dolls*. She is proud to be a part of the cast and hopes to be in many more shows to come.



Kirk Waller (OL' MISTER) has spent the last 25+ years as a solo performer/ storyteller, actor and musician. His favorite moments on stage include Troy Maxson in *Fences*, John Henry in *Train Stories*, and Grandpa Joe in *Willy Wonka*. Kirk is also the Executive Manager on the PTC Board. Kirk loves supporting the arts on stage or off stage.



Tevin Whack (Ensemble) displayed an exceptional talent for performing since age 3, and fell in love with Musical Theatre. As a child, he danced under the direction of LaTonya Watts, and has graced various stages, including Great America and Disneyland. He studied drama in high school and college and is currently a student at the Respect for Acting Academy under the mentorship of Jossie Harris. To date, he has had roles in 10 of Clayton Theatre Company's productions, and *The Color Purple* is Tevin's 4th performance with Pittsburg Theatre Company.

SPECIAL THANKS

The production team would like to extend a special thanks to the following for their help in bringing this production to the stage:

The City of Pittsburg,
Anthony Lane and the California Theatre
Community Presbyterian Church
Good Shepherd Catholic Church
People Who Care, Maya Duran
Brian Burns— G & C Autobody
California Municipal Finance Authority



UPCOMING AUDITIONS



Footloose

A black silhouette of a person in a dynamic, dancing pose is positioned above the word "Footloose", which is written in a large, yellow, cursive script.

AUDITIONS

March 13 & 14, 2026

www.ptcca.org/auditions



A
CHRISTMAS
CAROL
1939

A detailed illustration of a wooden grandfather clock with a pendulum, rendered in a dark red color. The text "A CHRISTMAS CAROL 1939" is overlaid on the clock in a white, serif font.

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PRODUCTION TEAM

ProducerDianna Schepers
DirectorTanika Baptiste
ChoreographerTiana Hester
Musical DirectorJon Gallo
Stage ManagerZoe Lewis
Fight/Intimacy DirectorBessie Zolno
Dialect CoachSologne Schumacher
Drama TherapistChampagne Hughes
CostumerEdythe “Edie” Olson
Costume AssistantsGwendolyn Sampson Brown and
Adriana Gutierrez
Cosmetologist/Wig DesignerKarlina Glover
Set Design / PropertiesDianna Schepers
Set ConstructionBruce Brandt, Michael Wilson
Set PaintingPWCL, Cast and Crew
Deck ChiefsMaria Coniglio, Anthony Elrod
Light ConsultantMike Morris
Light Design/OperatorAaron Yi
Sound ConsultantRon Keeler
Sound Design/OperatorJulie Domingo
Sound AssistantAva Duran
Show Graphic DesignSara and Phillip Leyva
Graphics / Programs /Preshow.....Dianna Schepers
VideographyMel Nash
PhotographySara Leyva
HospitalityKatie Rapolas



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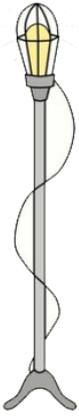


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IN MEMORIAM



Evelyn Arms 1931-2025

Pittsburg Theatre Company recently lost one of its original members, Evelyn Arms. She was the matriarch of a family whose legacy is instrumental to the success of the company. We honor her considerable contribution to our early foundation, and recognize her spirit, her commitment, and her unwavering encouragement toward all who worked with her.

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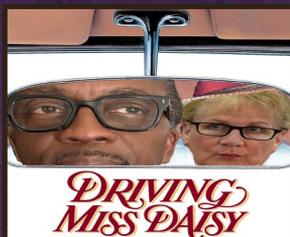
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FOOTLOOSE—March 13 & 14, 2026

A CHRISTMAS CAROL 1939—August 2 & 3, 2026

View Full Program



SCAN ME

To view full program including cast bios and upcoming PTC events, use your phone app and hover over this code and click the QR link on the display.

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